

## Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 BIB-01 SAM-01 IO-10 PM-03 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2305

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MWDRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1799

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB PFOR PO UR

SUBJ: MINISTER OF LABOR RETURNS FROM MOSCOW

REF: LISBON 1469, MOSCOW 4338

SUMMARY: MINISTER OF LABOR COSTA MARTINS RETURNED FROM A WEEK-LONG VISIT TO SOVIET UNION DURING WHICH HE MET WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, KOSYGIN. COSTA MARTINS STATES VISIT "HIGHLY POSITIVE" AND INFORMS THAT PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES IS INVITED TO VISIT MOSCOW. END SUMMARY.

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1. MINISTER OF LABOR MAJOR INACIO COSTA MARTINS RETURNED TO

LISBON MARCH 30 FOLLOWING SEVEN-DAY VISIT TO USSR. HIGHLIGHT OF TRIP WAS A THREE-HOUR MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN OF USSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, ALEKSEY KOSYGIN ON MARCH 26. INTERVIEW DESCRIBED BY COSTA MARTINS UPON HIS RETURN AS A DISCUSSION OF LUSO-SOVIET RELATIONS WITH AGREEMENT ON THE NEED FOR AN INCREASE IN SOVIET ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL, "BASED ON COOPERATION, MUTUAL RESPECT AND NON-INTERFERENCE." KOSYGIN REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED HIS SOLIDARITY WITH THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT AND THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL AND FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO CONSOLIDATE PORTUGUESE DEMOCRACY.

2. UPON ARRIVAL IN LISBON, COSTA MARTINS STATED THAT ALTHOUGH INVITATIONS FOR STATE VISITS NORMALLY HANDLED THROUGH EMBASSIES, HE BELIEVED HE COULD SAY THAT PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES HAD BEEN INVITED TO VISIT THE SOVIET UNION.

3. USSR'S FIRST VICE MINISTER OF DEFENSE REPORTEDLY RECEIVED COSTA MARTINS FOR COURTESY VISIT. DELEGATION ALSO VISITED STATE COMMITTEE FOR UTILIZATION OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND POINTS OF INTEREST IN MOSCOW AND LENINGRAD. MILITARY MEMBERS OF DELEGATION VISITED FRUNZE MILITARY AND NAVAL BASE AT SEVASTOPOL.

4. IN REGARD TO WORKING ASPECTS OF VISIT, MINISTER STATED HE HAD MET WITH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS COMMITTEE FOR LABOR AND WAGES WHERE PROBLEMS OF INCOME DISTRIBUTION, MANAGEMENT, AND LABOR LAW WERE DISCUSSED. MINISTER NOTED THAT WHILE WAGE DIFFERENCES IN SOVIET UNION WERE LESS THAN IN PORTUGAL, THERE DID EXIST WITHIN THE SOVIET UNION SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES IN WAGES DEPENDING UPON THE TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED.

5. IN REGARD TO FUTURE TRIPS, COSTA MARTINS SAID HE HAS INVITATIONS TO VISIT SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES AND WOULD DO SO WHENEVER THIS WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING LIVING STANDARDS, DEVELOPMENT, AND PROMOTE BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF PORTUGUESE SITUATION.

6. COMMENT: THE VISIT HAS RECEIVED EXTENSIVE AND FAVORABLE PRESS TREATMENT, REFLECTING A WIDELY SHARED SATISFACTION THAT A PORTUGUESE MINISTER RECEIVED VIP TREATMENT BY A GREAT POWER.

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**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 SEP 2003 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006